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C 24971

6 Aug 53

Country: Poland

Subject: Projected Plan to use Polish Seamen in exile on US Merchant Ships.

Place Acquired: - -

Date Acquired : 6 Aug 53

Date of Info : 4 Aug 53

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Source :

1. "Wladzimierz Zyms, a permanent member of the purser's office on the British liner Queen Mary, appears to be close to the inner circle of the Polish Government in exile. According to him, this Government has now in England a large number of Polish officers and seamen highly skilled in navigation and maritime service but now in exile, barred by national laws from the foreign maritime industry.
2. "There is a plan under consideration to take this manpower from plants, farms and mines, where it is wasted and to reorganize it to enter the maritime industry as a national force, although it might serve under foreign flags.
3. "In about one month (on the second trip next of the Queen Mary to New York), Zyms will arrive in this country as the emissary or courier of the Polish Government in exile with completed plans.
4. "The alleged plan will call for a group of U. S. Congressmen, sympathetic to the cause of an independent Poland to require that certain freightships and tankers laid up in our Ports from lack of use should be turned over to Polish crews to operate along business lines, with profit motives. While ships would remain part of the U. S. Merchant Marine, profits from their operations would be divided on ships maintenance, seamen's wages, with the balance remaining under the control of the Polish Government in exile and the Zwiazek Marynarzy Polskich (Alliance of Polish Seamen) as a general emergency fund to be used at their discretion in the cause of an independent Poland.
5. "In return, the Polish Government and ZMP will undertake to provide business for the ships and will maintain underground discipline on these ships. It is figured that desertions from Polish Communist ships would be encouraged by the knowledge that there are ships operated by free Poles available as a place of refuge."

- end -

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